

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-12 /106 W
-----081600 020721Z/15

R 012355Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6153
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PDEV
SUBJECT: ZIMBABWE PATRIOTIC FRONT REP PRESENTATION

SUMMARY. IN CALL ON POL OFF, REPRESENTATIVE OF ZIMBABWE PATRIOTIC FRONT CALLED FOR U.S. TO SUPPORT INCLUSION OF PATRIOTIC FRONT IN ANY RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT. CLAIMED THAT FRONT IS ANTI-COMMUNIST, RECOGNIZES DANGERS OF SOVIET INFLUENCE IN AFRICA AND HAS SOUGHT SOVIET CO-OPERATION ONLY IN ABSENCE OTHER ALTERNATIVES. END SUMMARY.

1. A.H. MOMBESHORA, WHOSE CARD IDENTIFIES HIM AS "PATRIOTIC FRONT (ZANU) CHIEF REPRESENTATIVE FOR NORTH AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST", CALLED ON POL OFF MARCH 1.

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HIS OBJECTIVE WAS TO ARGUE THAT U.S. SHOULD NOT BACK OFF ITS POSITION ATTRIBUTED TO AMBASSADOR YOUNG THAT "SETTLEMENT IN RHODESIA CAN SETTLE NOTHING IF IT DOES NOT INCLUDE PATRIOTIC FRONT." MOMBESHORA CALLED THIS POSITION "REALISTIC" AND SAID PATRIOTIC FRONT DISTURBED BY SUBSEQUENT STATE DEPARTMENT COMMENTS WHICH SEEMED TO DISAVOW IT.

2. PATRIOTIC FRONT AS CONCERNED AS WEST WITH SOVIET INFLUENCE AND INTERFERENCE IN AFRICA, ACCORDING TO REP. IT DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT SOVIET SUPPORT OF FREEDOM OF AFRICAN PEOPLE IS GENUINE BUT BASED ONLY ON ADVANCING SOVIET INTERESTS. ACCORDING MOMBESHORA, PATRIOTIC FRONT DENOUNCES "WESTERN IMPERIALISM" BECAUSE IT IS EXPLOITATIVE, BUT UNDERSTANDS THAT SOVIET IMPERIALISM WORSE SINCE IT IS BOTH EXPLOITATIVE AND REPRESSIVE. FRONT KNOWS THAT "SOCIALISM" IS WORLDWIDE FAILURE AND HAS LITTLE TO OFFER AFRICA. IF PATRIOTIC FRONT HAD BEEN ABLE NEGOTIATE SOLUTION, IT WOULD HAVE DONE SO; IT HAS TURNED TO SOVIETS ONLY BECAUSE THERE NO ALTERNATIVE IN ITS FIGHT FOR FREEDOM.

3. MOMBESHORA SAID PATRIOTIC FRONT UNDERSTANDS CONCERNS OF WEST, BUT WEST USING WRONG METHOD BY BOOSTING SO-CALLED MODERATES, WHO ARE TRAITORS IN EYES OF AFRICANS. PATRIOTIC FRONT CAN SEE NO REAL BENEFITS OR REAL INDEPENDENCE POSSIBLE FROM INTERNAL SOLUTION. IF IT TAKES PLACE, "AFRICAN VIETNAM" IS POSSIBLE RESULT. THIS WOULD ONLY STRENGTHEN COMMUNIST HAND, AND PATRIOTIC FRONT DOES NOT WISH TO SEE IT HAPPEN.

4. MOMBESHORA ASKED THAT HIS "OFFICIAL VIEWS" BE BROUGHT TO ATTENTION OF DEPARTMENT OF STATE. EILTS
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Message Attributes

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